

**Electronic Filing System (EFS) Data**  
**Electronic Patent Application Submission**  
**USPTO Use Only**

EFS ID: 16009  
Application ID: 10064235  
Title of Invention: SUTURING APPARATUS, METHOD  
AND SYSTEM  
First Named Inventor: H Craig  
Domestic/Foreign Application: Domestic Application  
Filing Date: null  
Effective Receipt Date: 2002-06-24  
Submission Type: Utility Patent Filing  
Filing Type: new-utility  
Confirmation Number: 0  
Attorney Docket Number: HRCMP004  
Digital Certificate Holder: cn=Carl Oppedahl, ou=Registered Attorneys, ou=Patent and  
Trademark Office, ou=Department of Commerce, o=U.S.  
Government, c=US  
Certificate Message Digest: Hs+JNIDuh8ep/RWbxqK07w==  
Total Fees Authorized: \$370.0  
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20020624 16009 10064235

# TRANSMITTAL FORM

Electronic Version 1.0.3

Stylesheet Version: 1.0

Submission Type: Utility Patent  
Filing

Attorney Docket  
Number:

HRCMP004



## SUTURING APPARATUS, METHOD AND SYSTEM

First Named Inventor: H Randall Craig

### SUBMITTED BY

Name:

Carl Oppedahl

Electronic Signature Mark: /s/

Date Signed: 20020624

*I certify that the use of this system is for OFFICIAL correspondence between patent applicants or their representatives and the USPTO. Fraudulent or other use besides the filing of official correspondence by authorized parties is strictly prohibited, and subject to a fine and/or imprisonment under applicable law.*

*I, the undersigned, certify that I have viewed a display of document(s) being electronically submitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, using either the USPTO provided style sheet or software, and that this is the document(s) I intend for initiation or further prosecution of a patent application noted in the submission. This document(s) will become part of the official electronic record at the USPTO.*

### Attached Files:

|                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| declaration      | declaration01.TIF |
| declaration      | declaration02.TIF |
| specification    | specification.xml |
| bibd-transmittal | epaveapds.xml     |
| fee-transmittal  | epavefee.xml      |

declaration01.TIF  
declaration02.TIF

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**Comments:**

Any deficiency in fees may be charged to our deposit account number 15-0610.

1064235-0499

### COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My citizenship, residence and post office address are as listed below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and ☒ sole/☐ joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:  
the specification of which

(a) ☒ is attached hereto.

(b) ☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_.

(c) ☐ was described and claimed in International Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_ and amended on \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Acknowledgment of Duty of Disclosure

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understood the content of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56(a).

#### 35 U.S.C. § 120

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) or 385(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT international application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

| (Application Serial No.) | (Filing Date) | (Status)(patented,pending,abandoned) | (Patent No. if applicable) |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| (Application Serial No.) | (Filing Date) | (Status)(patented,pending,abandoned) | (Patent No. if applicable) |

| (Application Serial No.) | (Filing Date) | (Status)(patented,pending,abandoned) | (Patent No. if applicable) |
|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| (Application Serial No.) | (Filing Date) | (Status)(patented,pending,abandoned) | (Patent No. if applicable) |

#### Power of Attorney

I hereby appoint practitioners at customer no. 21121 as attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO:  
OPPEDAHL & LARSON LLP  
(970)468-6600

06/24/2002 14:54 4808971283

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PAGE

06/24/2002 13:57 9704680104

OPPEDAHL LARSON LLP

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**Claim for Priority**

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign applications for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

| EARLIEST FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), FILED WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO SAID APPLICATION |                 |                                    |                                   |                  |                         |
|---|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| COUNTRY   | APPLICATION NO. | DATE OF FILING<br>(day/month/year) | DATE OF ISSUE<br>(day/month/year) | PRIORITY CLAIMED | CERTIFIED COPY ATTACHED |
|   |                 |                                    |                                   | YES [ ] NO [ ]   | YES [ ] NO [ ]          |
| FOREIGN APPLICATION(S), IF ANY, FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO SAID APPLICATION   |                 |                                    |                                   |                  |                         |
| COUNTRY   | APPLICATION NO. | DATE OF FILING<br>(day/month/year) | DATE OF ISSUE<br>(day/month/year) |                  |                         |
|   |                 |                                    |                                   |                  |                         |

**Provisional Application**

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

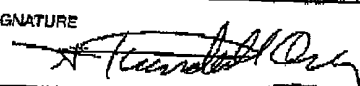
60/302,338

06/28/2001

(application number)

(filing date)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

|  |                               |   |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR                 | LAST NAME<br>Craig            | FIRST NAME<br>H.  | MIDDLE NAME<br>Randal         |
| RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP                        | CITY OF RESIDENCE<br>Chandler | STATE OR COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE<br>AZ   | COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP<br>USA |
| POST OFFICE ADDRESS<br>3200 N. Dobson Road #F7 |                               | CITY<br>Chandler  | STATE/COUNTRY ZIP CODE<br>AZ  |
| DATE<br>6-24-02                                |                               | SIGNATURE<br> |                               |

- [ ] Signature for additional joint inventor attached. Number of Pages \_\_\_\_
- [ ] Signature by Administrator(trix) or legal representative for deceased or incapacitated inventor. Number of Pages \_\_\_\_
- [ ] Signature for inventor who refuses to sign or cannot be reached by person authorized under 37 CFR § 1.47. Number of Pages \_\_\_\_

# FEE TRANSMITTAL

Electronic Version 1.1.0

Stylesheet Version: 1.0

*Patent fees are subject to annual revisions on or about October 1st of each year.*

Small Entity

**TOTAL FEES AUTHORIZED: \$ 370**

## BANK (CREDIT) CARD INFORMATION:

Credit Card Number: 3008  
Expiration Date: 20040731  
Authorized Name: Carl Oppedahl  
Billing Address: 80435

## BASIC FILING FEE

| Fee Description    | Fee Code | Fee Paid |
|--------------------|----------|----------|
| Utility Filing Fee | 201      | \$ 370   |

Subtotal For Basic Filing Fee: \$ 370